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1635

Attorney Docket No. 23239-539

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):	Ellington, et al	EXAMINER:	Janet L. Epps-Ford
SERIAL NO.:	09/661,658	ART UNIT:	1635
FILING DATE:	September 14, 2000		
FOR:	Allosterically Regulated Ribozymes		

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Transmittal Letter

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-referenced application are the following:

1. Response to September 24, 2002 Office Action (3 pgs.);
2. Sequence Listing (3 pgs.);
   a. Statement in Support of CRF;
   b. Electronic Copy of Sequence Listing (1 disk); and
3. Return postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required in connection with the papers transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 23239-539 (ARCH-39)).

Respectfully submitted,

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Response to September 24, 2002 Office Action

In response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2002 ("Office Action"), please amend the application as follows.

In The Specification:

Replace the paragraph starting on page 30, line 17, and ending on page 31, line 5, with the following paragraph:

C1

Figure 1 depicts the secondary structure of the td intron from bacteriophage T4 (GenBank # M 12742), wherein "td" means theophylline-dependent (SEQ ID NO:7). The td intron was selected to illustrate the present invention because, among other things, mutational analysis has identified regions of this intron that can be engineered and modified. See Salvo et al., Deletion-tolerance and trans-splicing of the bacteriophage T4 intron. Analysis of the F6-L6a region. *J. Mol. Biol.* **211**, 537-549 (1990) and Salvo et al., The P2 element of the td intron is dispensable despite its normal role in splicing. *J. Mol. Biol.* **267**, 2845-2848 (1992). Thus, aptamer domains or pools may be engineered into the T4 intron.